

**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))—INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number (Optional)

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier:

Thomas Paul Downs

Application or Patent No.:

Filed or Issued:

Title: PROTECTIVE DIVIDER AND ENCLOSURE DISC ASSEMBLY

for laser discs and laser disc drives.

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☒ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.  
☐ Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

Thomas Paul Downs

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Date

Date

Date

Being duly sworn, I Thomas Paul Downs, depose and say that I am a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 5100 Inglewood Boulevard, Culver City, California 90230, County of Los Angeles, State of California; that I have read the foregoing specification and claims and I do verily believe that I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the invention of Protective Divider and Enclosure Disc Assembly For Laser Discs and Laser Disc Drives described and claimed therein; that I do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application; that this invention has not been patented in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or any legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months before this application; and that no application for patent on this invention has been filed by me or any legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States.

And I hereby appoint myself, Thomas Paul Downs, P.O. Box 3191 Beverly Hills, California 90212, as Patent Agent to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith.

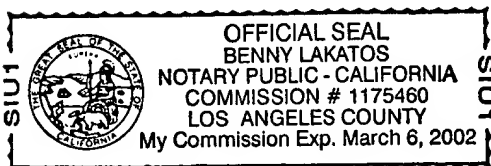
Wherefore I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, oath, power of Patent Agent, and this petition.

Inventor Thomas Paul Downs  
(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name)

Post Office Address: P.O. Box 3191  
Beverly Hills, California 90212  
County of Los Angeles  
State of California

State of California  
City of Beverly Hills  
County of Los Angeles

Before me personally appeared Thomas Paul Downs, to me known to be the person described in the above application for patent, who signed the foregoing instrument in my presence, and made oath before me to the allegations set forth therein as being under oath, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 2001.



Benny Lakatos  
Notary Public or Officer